

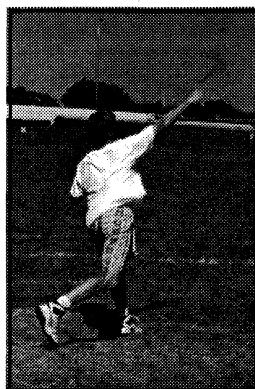
# Many Happy Returns

Issue No. 64

An International Publication of the United States Boomerang Association

Fall 1995

## Nationals A Smash!



Inset: Chicago Bob launches (left), then catches a 50-meter bull (right) in his final Aussie Round throw at Nationals in Minneapolis. Bob salvaged a descent third place score of 68 points. As incentive, MHR editor Gregg Snouffer, promised Bob a spot on the cover of MHR, if his final throw was a bullseye, Gregg then snapped these photos of Bob's picture-perfect toss. You're looking at the rest of the story!

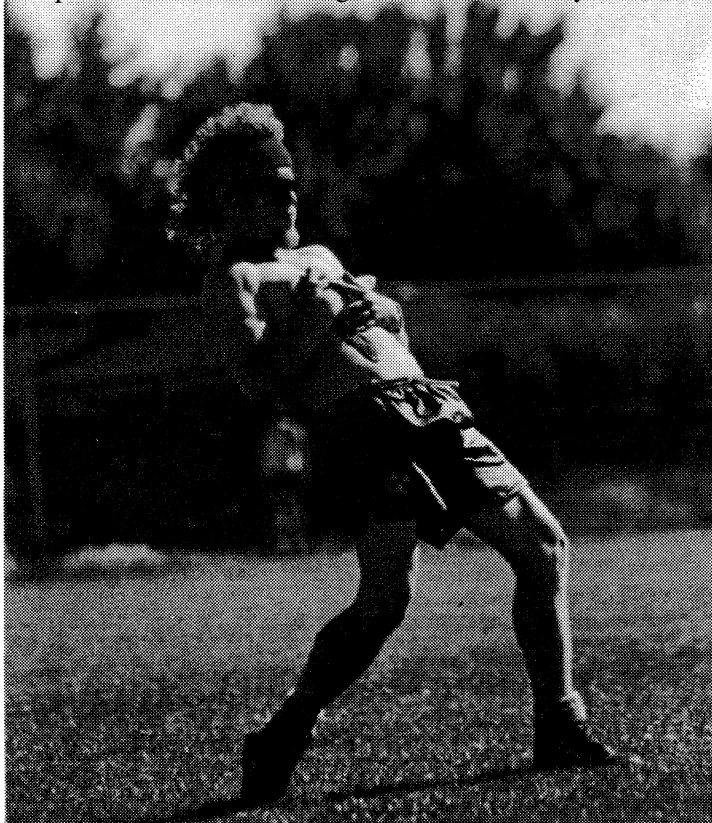
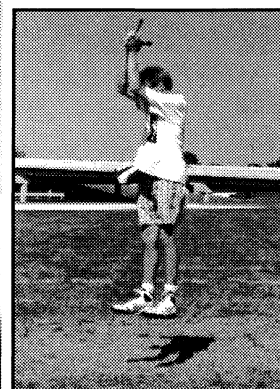


Photo  
Betsy  
Miale  
Gix

Steve Kavanaugh "takes one in the chest" earlier this summer in Salem, Oregon. Under breezy conditions, the past world champ in Aussie Round finished second to smokin' Casey Larrance. Full wrap up on summer competitions begins on page 13.



## USBA BUZZ

"Everything you need to know!"

### USBA Store Moves to Home Office

The USBA store has changed proprietors and locations! To order inventory from the store, you now simply write to USBA headquarters. Gregg is now running the store. The first matter of business is a new USBA T-shirt, stickers, and other merchandise. Watch for new merchandise in upcoming issues of MHR.

### He's Ba-ack!

Rev. Jim Schramm, from St Louis, was voted back onto the USBA Board as a member at large after sitting out the '95 term. Sean Marquardt, who was unable to attend the annual elections, held during the nationals in Minneapolis August 19-21, lost his bid for re-election to Jim, who skillfully dazzled the crowd, promising 2 booms in every boom bag.

Word has it that the Rev was miffed when he missed out on the good eats at Mike Dickson's house last Fall at a planning meeting, and wasn't about to let it happen again. He was rumored to have been overheard saying, "If I'd known there would be food at the '95 meeting, I would never have sat out last term. Sean can get his own food."

Call it tabloid trash... we just thought you should know!

Also making the cut for the 1995-96 year, Chet Snouffer will retain his position as president, with Chicago Bob pushing him to accomplish something as one of those pesky members-at-large.

Mark Weary will continue his second term as Vice President and chief coordinator of the Southwestern Region (that last part is bogus, but sounds good and, for all intents and purposes, is true)

Gerry Gix and Gregg Snouffer maintain their low-profile, high-impact posts as treasurer and secretary.

Joining the Rev and Chi-Town as members-at-large are Betsy Miale-Gix, of Seattle, and Gary Broadbent and Mike Dickson, from Ohio.

If you've read this far and found that last article somewhat irreverent, let us explain that this is simply an attempt to reward those of you who honorably muck through the **USBA Buzz** section every issue, enduring the endless, boring details of a bureaucracy in action...well, that and the fact that its four o'clock in the morning as we're writing this!

## USBA Auction a Smash!

### Rev Jim Makes Highest Bid, \$200 On Bonin Trick Catch Poster

MINNEAPOLIS- The annual USBA auction, held at Nationals on August 19, raised \$2022.13, the most money raised at the annual auction since the St Louis auction in 1992.

Items bringing the largest bids included a limited edition Didier Bonin lithograph poster showing 50 trick catches that was purchased for \$200 by Rev Jim of St Louis. Meanwhile, Gary Broadbent cleaned out the Rusty Harding donations, purchasing a 1981 Tomohawk boom, the seventh one made by Harding (\$110), as well as a 1980 Rusty Harding Hurricane Hook (\$100), but a Harding "Concept 70 V" boom was won by John Koehler in fierce bidding for \$100.

Other 'rangs bringing exceptional bids included a Fred Malmberg lap joint (\$111), an Ola Wahlburg Aussie Round boom (\$75), a broken Herb Smith phenolic made for the B-Man (\$65), a Norm Kern series of booms that makes a fish when put together (\$65), and a one-of-a-kind boom calendar (\$75), which featured a different full-color classic boom from one of the legends for each month.

## Editor's Column

### New Boom Clubs Encouraged

The goal of the USBA has always been to promote the growth of the boomerang sport and hobby. MHR serves as a focal point for the numerous clubs and individuals who throw and build around the U.S. and the world. Here at USBA headquarters, we are often asked by the curious if someone in their area of the country throws. With the listing of Boomerang Clubs published in MHR (Pg 19), we have given everyone who reads it the opportunity to find these throwers. The problem is, many people don't see their area listed, and mistakenly believe that there are no throwers in their city or state.

To remedy this situation, I would like to put a call out to all members to serve as "Club organizers" in your area. You would be listed in MHR as a contact, in return for which, you would answer occasional mail or phone calls from people who want to find out more about boomeranging in your area. Rather than looking upon this as an obligation, I hope you would view it as an excellent opportunity to meet friends, possibly leading to regular boom outings and local newsletters and activities. Start by being listed as a contact, then let it grow as your number of local boom friends grows. Notify me if interested.

Gregg Snouffer

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## WANTED

The next Issue of MANY HAPPY RETURNS will feature "Up And Coming Boom Studs and Studettes." We need YOUR photos and stories, stats, names and aliases, ... whatever. Send to the editor of this magazine and watch your local baby boomers go up in lights! Please reply by December 25, 1995.

### COLLECTABLE BOOMERANG AUCTION!!!

Ted Bailey is auctioning off John Cryderman's fabulous collection. The deadline for bidding on Part I is 7 December. If you want to get in on the bidding, call **Ted Bailey** at (313)-971-2970 or write to: Ted Bailey; P. O. Box 6076; Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

## Congratulations Mark And Tina Weary

A Baby Girl, Martina "Wildwoman Weary"  
Born October 4, 1995

We're looking forward to the 2012 World Cup Women's Team!

## USBA T-Shirt Design Contest!

Hey kiddies, and anyone else who has some crayons! The USBA is readying the presses for a new batch of USBA T-shirts and bumper stickers! If you're the kind of person who thinks, "I could design a better shirt than THAT," this is your chance!

You **may** incorporate the USBA logo (opposite page) but it is **not** required.

**Cool Prizes:** The winner will receive:

- \* 1- free year of membership in the USBA! (\$15 value!)
- \* 1- free T shirt with your new design on it! (\$15 value)
- \* art work featured on front cover of the next MHR!  
(\$ invaluable!)

What more could you ask for? Don't be shut out! Get those markers moving!

**The Fine Print:** All entries must be postmarked by **December 15, 1995**. All entries become the property of The USBA, for possible promotional use. Credit will be given to the author. (Not so bad, eh?)

## USBA INFORMATION

The USBA is a non-profit organization whose goal is to promote the art, craft, sport and poetry of boomerangs through events, competitions, and information distributed through the quarterly newsletter, Many Happy Returns. Your input is welcome and you can contact the USBA by writing to:

**U.S. Boomerang Association**  
P.O. Box 182  
Delaware, OH 43015

**Fax: (614) 363-4414**

**E-mail:**

**75574.2346@compuserve.com**

Comments on newsletter content, and submissions for inclusion, including articles, photos, cartoons and designs are accepted. Editorial content is also encouraged, but the editor reserves the right to edit and inclusion is not guaranteed.

**Missing Issues of MHR** should be directed to Gregg Snouffer at the above address.

### USBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**Vice-President**  
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Gerry Gix (503) 672-8117  
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Betsy Miale-Gix (206) 485-1672

## USBA MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

All membership dues should be paid by check or money order in \$USD\$. Make checks payable to: USBA.

**Domestic and Canadian annual membership dues are \$15 per year. A domestic lifetime membership is \$225. Annual overseas dues are \$20. A lifetime overseas membership is \$350.**

Check your newsletter label for expiration issue. Membership status questions should be directed to **Gregg Snouffer**

## Many Happy Returns

Circulation: 400 Worldwide.

Published by the:

**U. S. Boomerang Association**  
P.O. Box 182  
Delaware, OH 43015

### Mechanical Measurements:

Image area: 9.5" deep by 7.5" wide; 3 columns to a page;  
width of a single column: 2.25"

### Advertising Rates:

Full Page	\$100
2 Columns	\$ 75
1/2 Page	\$ 60
1 Column	\$ 50
Per Column inch	\$ 5

10% discount for 4 consecutive issues. All advertisements must be pre-paid in USD by check or M. O. to USBA. Camera-ready copy preferred. The editor reserves the right to refuse any advertisement or cancel a contract without reason. The deadline for all advertisements is March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1 for the Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter issues respectively. All advertisements should be mailed to USBA.

## Membership Application

Copy this page and carry extra copies of this sheet in your boomerang bag to hand out.

Check:  New  Renewal

name

address

address

city/state/zip or country

phone number (optional)

New Member or Renewal?

USBA member sponsor's name

New members and renewals: Send the completed coupon (or copy) and \$15 (\$20 overseas) check or M. O. to:

**USBA membership**  
P. O. Box 182  
Delaware, OH 43015

## Boom Fragments

Bits of news from around the world

**AUSTRALIA-** The legendary Australian Boomerang craftsman Arthur Janetski passed away unexpectedly on August 4, after a brief hospital stay.

According to Bruce Carter, of the BAA, Arthur was in fine spirits and ready to go home from the hospital when Bruce visited him a month earlier. The cause of his sudden death is unknown.

Arthur was the brother and partner of Les Janetski, who died in 1992. Les constructed and Arthur hand painted the trademark boomerangs that the two referred to as the "Rolls Royce" of boomerangs. Well known for their quality craftsmanship, their 'rangs were already valued collectors items before Les' death. In recent years, Janetski boomerangs have sold for hundreds of dollars.



Arthur Janetski celebrating his 91st birthday earlier this year.

-Photo courtesy of Bruce Carter

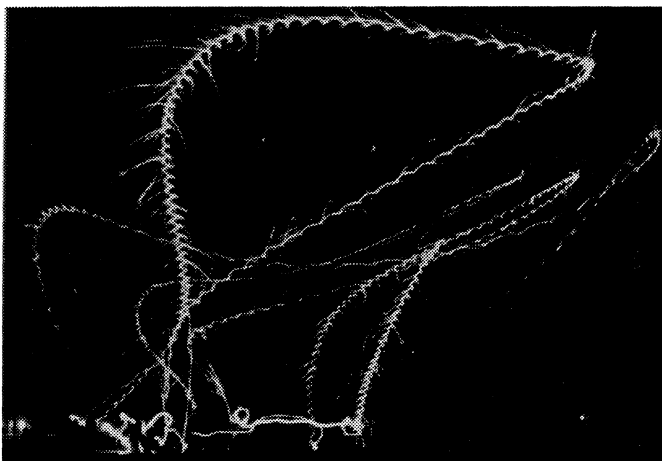
### French Boomerang Museum To Move

**LURE, FRANCE** - The Museum Of Boomerangs and Flying Sticks (yes, there really is such a place) is about to leave its home town of Lure in search of a larger building in another town.

Curator, Jacques Thomas, has been looking to enlarge the museum for some time, and the move to an as yet unknown location will hopefully enable the expansion. In the meantime, the museum, which features rare egyptian artifacts, will close its doors at the present location in late October and move near the end of the year.

### Night Flights A Hit Down Under

**KALGOORLIE, AUSTRALIA** - Roger Perry, the guru of night booms from Perth, spent 7 weeks on the road recently, battling cyclones, 100 meter high trees, and automatic sprinkler systems, to bring night boomerang demos to some 20,000 spectators and school children across Western Australia. It sounds as if the benefits outweighed the inconveniences, and the traveling show is now planning its next tour - 20 shows in the St Louis area - next April through June.

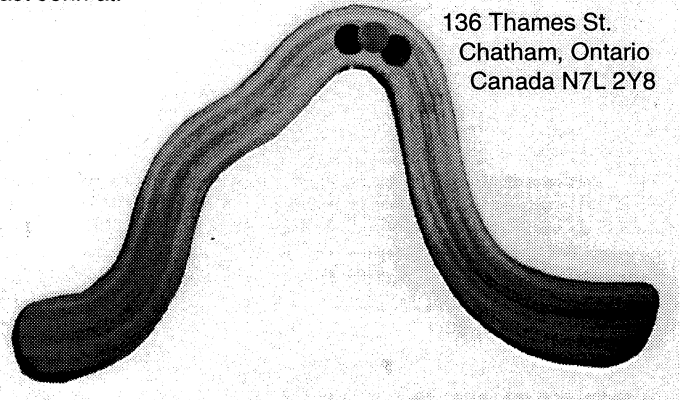


Boomerangs light up the night over Western Australia

### ...Strip Laminate Spyder sat Down Beside Her And Scared Miss Muffit Away

While building strip laminate molds late one night, Canada's **John Cryderman** apparently dozed off and let his jigsaw do the walking. The resulting squiggle-shaped mold, which would normally have been tossed in the trash bin, was instead, used to build John's newest strip laminate model, the **Tech 1 Spyder**. We're not sure about its flight characteristics, but we're sure that if you want to buy one, John'll sell it to you! For a catalog, contact John at:

136 Thames St.  
Chatham, Ontario  
Canada N7L 2Y8



### Finnish Boom Society ?

Harry Pietil, of Helsinki, Finland, writes to say that, though there are few Finnish boomers, he is about to undertake organizing the Finnish Boomerang Society. He will publish a newsletter and keep us informed, via newsletter exchange, of the proceedings in Finland. Good Luck Harry! You can email Harry at: [hpietila@oj287.astro.utu.fi](mailto:hpietila@oj287.astro.utu.fi)

# Boom Fragments

From The U.S.A.

## BOOMERS' E-MAIL ADDRESSES

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Also please visit **alt.boomerang** on the Newsgroup BB

\* denotes boom club organizer

# denotes boomerang manufacturer

Submit YOUR electronic address to Paul D. Sprague  
Two Ems Inc., 782 Boston Post Rd., Madison CT 06443

## Booms On The Web

### Tony Brazelton opens USBA web page

A web page is like a big billboard on the information highway. You can get boomerang and USBA info, etc. Check us out at:

<http://soma.npa.uluc.edu/labs/greenough/statements/adb/usbainfo.html>

### Colorado Boom's Announces Web Page

Colorado Boomerangs now has a World-Wide Web site, featuring a full-color catalog, a How To Boomerang section, and links to other on-line resources. The address: <http://pd.net/colorado/>

## B-Man's Fall Clearance Sale

MONROE, LA - **Rich Harrison**, the B-Man, announces that he is selling off part of his own collection. He's got some rare, no longer available 'rangs that he is passing on to interested collectors. Anyone wishing a flyer of items up for bid should send a #10 SASE to **The B-Man** at: 1806 N 3rd, Monroe LA 71201, or phone (318) 325-8157

## Fred Announces Last Chance!

**Fred Malmburg** is about to put together the final draft of his book on boomerang designs and wants to extend a final invitation to any crafters out there who want to get their shapes on hard copy.

All you need to do is send the blueprint, with airfoil diagram, cross sections, building material, flight characteristics, etc. Or, better yet, just send a rang. Fred will do the rest and send it back to you.

Everyone is welcome to submit designs, even **YOU!** Your original boom shape will be noted right up there along with classics like the '81 Snouffer Black Rose, the '91 Romblad MTA, and the '90 Darnell tri-fly. Think you're not worthy? Think again... then send in your 'rang!

## Left Out Of The Toss

**O**n May 20 and 21, boomerangers gathered across the country to celebrate their prehistoric miracles of human engineering. The Summer issue of MHR shared details of the various "Toss Across America" activities, but failed to mention the activities of **Fred Malmberg** and **Mike Dickson**. While we wouldn't mind if you thought this was intentional, we must come clean and confess it was not. Here, as briefly as we dared risking it, are summaries of their activities.

Fred and his 12 year old son, **Marc**, hosted a Toss at John Rudy Park in Emigsville, PA, with about 40 throwers, many of them too young even for Darnell Tri-Flies. The kiddies received 49 cardboard booms Fred painstakingly cut out by hand. Under hot, sunny skies, Fred sunburned his lips through SPF 15! But the kids, including Fred's, had a great time... especially the one who swore you throw a boom like a frisbee.

Meanwhile, Mike was slopping through long, wet grass at Devonshire Park in Canton, Ohio. He had 20-some throwers who grinned their way through the whole mess.

It didn't hurt the turnout with the news coverage Mike received prior to the Toss in THE AKRON BEACON JOURNAL. For a related story on recent boomerang media coverage, TURN THE PAGE.

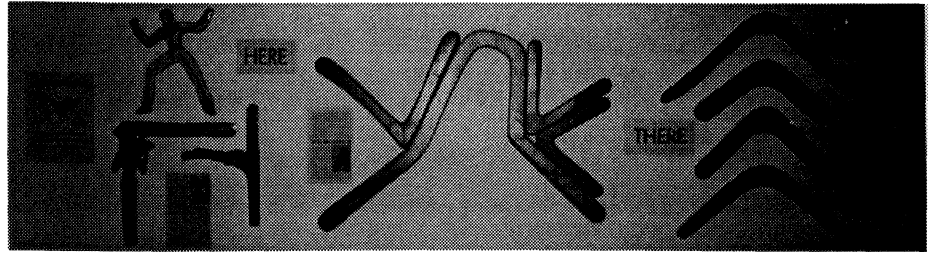
*"There is something about a boom that cruises along for about 60-70 yards, only a few feet off the ground. They are exciting to watch in flight, because you always have this feeling that it is just going to die out there on you, but then it comes cruising back to hit you right in the hands..."*

- Vince Hendricks waxes poetic on the flight of a distance hook boomerang.

## Here And There

Neil Kalmanson won first place for an educational exhibition he set up for his garden club in Swainsboro, Georgia, called "Boomerang Art - Here and There."

The exhibit compared American 'rang artists, **Neil Kalmanson** and **Pat Cardiff**, with Aboriginal artists, and was aptly named, "Boomerang Art - Here and There."



An explanation of the Kalmanson exhibit "Here and There" reads, "The traditions of boomerang art meet in this exhibition, one as old as mankind and one newly born. Each gives us an insight into the artist's world, his sense of beauty, of place, and of spirit."

## 15 Minutes Of Fame

With the notoriety generated by last year's U.S. Boomerang Team's MTV appearance, and Barnaby Ruhe's Tonight Show spectacle, its no wonder boomerangs are receiving unprecedented press coverage lately.

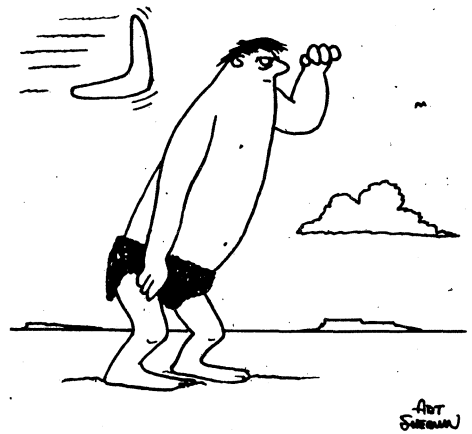
The **Akron Beacon Journal** featured a full color front page "Local" section photo and story on **Mike Dickson** and his Toss Across America activities in May (See below).

A month later, **The New York Times** ran a comprehensive article on the physics of flying toys in its Science Times section (June 20, 1995). In it the evolution of **Eric Darnell's** Tri-Fly, as well as the principles of boomerang flight in general were covered in depth.

15 year-old **Adam Ruhf's** stint as competitive boomeranging's top-ranked thrower drew the attention of the **Daily Hampshire Gazette**, which ran a feature article, and two color photos of the young star showing his stuff. The article also discussed the coaching relationship of Adam's father, former world champion, **Larry Ruhf** (Below, right).

**Country Living**, the official publication of Ohio Rural Electric Cooperatives, ran a feature article prior to the Delaware, Ohio tournament in its July issue. The article featured Alan Winterrowd's photos of **Chet, the Jet**, as well as **Steve Kavanaugh** and **Michael Gel Girvin**. It also featured information on the history and sport of boomerangs, and the USBA.

GOING FOR IT Sherman



World's first successful boomerang flight.

**Right:** Recent Sherman cartoon. **Lower Right:** Daily Hampshire Gazette. **Left:** Akron Beacon Journal.

## "He's getting older. I'm getting older, but I'm not getting old."

- Adam Ruhf, joking about his dad, former world champ Larry Ruhf, after Larry confessed he thought he'd probably never beat Adam again in competition.



Mike Dickson looks unimpeachable, but he's performing one of the trick catches of a boomerang at Jackson Township's Deereville Park. The cartoon with parts captioned is work of his, 2 nationally in book columns.

## Champ with boomerang



• Mike Dickson ranked 11th in nation as thrower, but on the return side, he's No. 1 at trick catches

By MICHAEL WEISSER

**JACKSON TWP.** He is like an overgrown child... trying to play through it but it doesn't work with weeks and dangers. For two years old, he pined down over his eyes, sporting around with a toy in his hand.

Mike Dickson when the V-shaped object had into the air, watching it turn in a complete arc before flying straight back toward him. In an instant, it is back in his hands again.

In the real life, Dickson is an odd part of a team in Jackson, but every man needs a hobby. It's back to the streets of

children. And collecting things has never been in the nature. He got some from days of their country when he would jump from house and chair in the woods of Harvard Square.

So, on a whim, Dickson he became one of the top thrower and throwers in the United States. Dickson is ranked 11th in the nation overall by the United States Boomerang Association and first nationally in the first cast event, which includes one hand catches, behind the best girls, even catches under the eye and with the feet.

See THX Page A22



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# LETTERS

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"The true essence of communication!"

## Up At BAT

I just contacted Ken Glover. I saw his name listed for the Boomerang Association of Texas in the last MHR. Nice guy, but he tells me that he is no longer doing that. Please make the correction in the next MHR so that people like me will stop calling him.

On a brighter note, Ken informed me that some other throwers had contacted him, and one was interested in firing the BAT (Boom Ass. of Texas) again. I'm going to try to call him and see what we can do. I'll be in touch when I know more...

Later,  
Vince Hendricks (neogamer@aol.com)

I'm moving to the big D in about three weeks so count me in as another soon to be Texas Boomeranger (BAT).

Steven  
New Guy has Questions for the Pros

## Shoulder Work Ahead

Question: I have pain in the shoulder and elbow: It has improved considerably since the first week (I did a stupid thing and threw for 3 hours my first day) but it's still there. Is the pain (a) normal for a beginner and transient, (b) normal and chronic, or (c) abnormal and a sign that I'm doing something wrong. I'm willing to deal with whichever is the right answer, I'd just like to know. And if the answer is (c), what do I need to do?

Louis J. Cassorla

## Shoulder Maintenance Advice

Hi Louis,

I also throw 4-5 times a week at lunchtime and then at least 1 3-hour marathon session on the weekend. And most of the time my arm feels fine. However, when my arm does get sore I can trace it back to either not enough warm-up / warm-down or poor throwing technique the day before.

To warm-up I take my Wind gauge (A 3.5 foot dowel) and use it to stretch my upper arm. One good stretch for me is placing my right arm over the shoulder and directly behind my head. I then place my left arm behind my back and reach up until the fingers on both hands interlock. I then just gently pull down stretching the right arm muscles. After that I take the wind gauge again and use it as a javelin and throw it lightly into the ground. With each successive throw I throw it a little harder. After a few throws I pickup a really light boom and throw it for a few minutes. After that my arm is ready to go!

Poor technique also can make my arm ache. If I don't properly "follow through" when throwing bigger booms my arm will feel like

it wants to fall off. Not following through for my throwing style means that I did not take a step with the throw or on the release not letting my arm flop down in front of me (picture a baseball pitcher's motion...).

For warm-down I use the same stretch outlined above and again use my wind gauge as a javelin.

The most important rule though is, if your arm starts hurting quickly fix the motion that is causing it to hurt or stop throwing for the day. If you spend an afternoon throw fast catches or big aussie round booms you might want to take a day off in similar fashion to Baseball pitchers who after 90-120 pitches in a game do not throw at all the next day.

Anyway, these are my arm pain impressions after 16 years of throwing hard and not having to have a rotator cup surgically repaired :) Get outside and throw!

Tim Schallberger  
Boomerang Target and Software Engineer  
Intel Personal Conferencing Division

## Graphite Better For Pencils

I am having success throwing wood booms like Gels, Colorado Boomerangs, and others, but I have two graphite rangers from France: a Spinback 44 and another whose name escapes me. I can't seem to get them to come back. They seem to fly the right direction, but run out of steam before they get back. I've tried in no wind to 15 mph. I've tried the whole range from directly into the wind to 90 D left. I've tried vertical to laid out throws. They are heavy compared to the wood ones, but they obviously work. Any help?

Skip Williams  
The Internet

Skip,  
*Sounds like either not enough arm, not enough snap, not enough layover, not enough wind, or not enough boom! Stick with what works and report the rest to us! -ed*

## Mystery Boom Club Makes Contact

Dear USBA,

I am writing to acknowledge the existence of the "previously unknown" boom club tastefully exposed in the Spring 1995 issue of MHR. I begin by apologizing for not becoming affiliated with the USBA earlier, but the truth is that the one who lost the most from that was I. Yes, we do exist and we throw regularly. I am, as we speak, encouraging USBA membership among the Columbus group.

My main reason for writing, however, is to express my sincere thanks for the way in which Cindy and I were received by all of you at the recent competition in Delaware, July 29 & 30. The first person we met was Bud Pell and I want to say that I was thoroughly inspired by him. How much? Enough to want to practice all the skills I'll need so that by this time next year, I'll be competing with you. The next person we met was Gary Broadbent, who happens to live near Cindy's parents in Canton.

We know we'll be seeing you again, Gary. To Chet, Gregg, Ted, Norm, Tony and all of the rest of the people who are a part of the sport... thank you! We'll stay in touch.

Bob Lackey  
The BBC (That's Bob's Boomerang Club)  
Columbus, OH

## Wind Advice From The B-Man, Himself!

Dear Gregg,

Another great issue of MHR. Looks like you've got members writing and sharing info. That is good. Contest page seems about right. Not too much detail, but enough that readers can read what happened and see if they missed a good time or not. Probably the most important part of any article is listing the names in BOLD PRINT. Nothing like stoking a bloke's ego!

Seems you have lots of questions on what 'rang is best for wind. Funny, I remember the first booms I sold were very nice in calm conditions, but terrible in winds. It wasn't until you guys began competing that we "discovered" that typical 'rangs did not work well in the wind.

What I have found works best for dealing with winds are rubber bands wrapped around the one of the wings. Cheap, quick, easy to adjust, not prone to becoming unadjusted. Quarter inch bands, like the post office uses, work well. Begin by applying band with several loose wraps and then tighten loops if less drag is needed.

As we all know, there is no perfect wind 'rang. Throwing in wind takes practice and patience. Sometimes its just not going to work. I find that thin, light 'rangs handle breezes well, if thrown with just a light flip toss and a little layover, then let the wind blow it back. Or a humpback throw... high and vertical release... might give fair returns.

With the tri-fly in wind, an inch of lead tape at the center gives a good hover and better feel when tossed. Slight dihedral (upward bend) on two wings and anhedral (downward bend) on the third, with a high, vertical toss, lots of spin, and you'll get returns even in a storm. (Watch out for the lightning!)

My fave wind boom is Rich Surace's HY-DRA. Add the rubber band and 100% catches, even in brisk winds.

Thanks for all of your hard work for the sport. MOOMBA,

Rich Harrison, the B-Man  
Monroe, LA

## South-Paw Scottish Pal needs help

Dear Sir,

I have recently become highly interested in Boomerangs and the sport of Boomerangs. I purchased the Pro-Fly boomerang and can even get it to come back to me (well, now and again...). I tried to pass this information on to my friend - but unfortunately he is left-handed and can't get the thing to work. I would like to know whether or not there are any left-handed boomerangs and where I can get hold of one. I presume there is a difference.

I have enclosed a stamped, self-addressed envelope and would appreciate if you could send me some information, along with your catalog (mentioned on the Pro-Fly package) and anything else that would help a novice get going. I wouldn't mind knowing just how the Aerodynamics work too - I did say I was highly interested!

I wouldn't normally have written, but there isn't anyone I can talk to here, and you guys/girls are professionals!

Simon Green  
Aberdeenshire, Scotland

*Yes, there are lefty booms out there. You can try any of the manufacturers listed on the back page of the newsletter, Many Happy Returns, or your own Pro-Fly can be twisted to make it a left-hander (read package instructions), but you may not want to be twisting it back and fourth, just to share with your left-handed mate. Make him buck up for his own! In the meantime, you'll find plans and articles in MHR that will help you figure out aerodynamics. The Spring, 1995 issue (#62) had a wonderful article by Norm Kern on aerodynamics. You can order it through the USBA store. Oh, and by the way, Watch how you throw that "P" word around! We don't know if we'd call Chicago Bob a professional!* - ed

## One-Handed Gellie Catch?

Scott K's inquiry on Gel booms prompted me to wondering again about Gel's obviously different design on most of his booms, namely the unusual "recurve" shape to the elbow. Supposedly this makes them easier to catch, and I can imagine this is true for those who catch two-handed. However, since I don't have a Gel boom yet (mostly Colo. booms, and very satisfied, thank you), I have to wonder from looking at his very different design how they are for catching one-handed. Looks to me like this sort of design would have a comparatively limited interior/open space while in rotation, as compared to most other designs. Seems like this would make it harder to catch one-handed.

From throwing/catching the Condor Comp. by Colo. Booms, and comparing it with their Delicate Arch, I can see the difference in ease of one-handed catching when the design has more open space in rotation, as the DA does.

Seems like most of Gel's designs would have even less open space in rotation. Of course, the proof's in the catching, and I'm sure I'll order one before too long to give it a try.

Would be very interested to know what other one-handers think of Gel's booms...

Steve Sanders  
Albuquerque, NM

**S\*@!, S\*@!, S\*@!!**

Yesterday I was throwing some of my self-made rangs. I love it and love each of my little cute rangs too!!!

I finished my new rang the CRAZY

HORSE some mounths ago. I tried to throw it but it don't flew. Last week i've found the right way to tune it. It flew wonderful. You could catch it with your feet. While i was tuning it yesterday I broke the second arm through . . . (expletive deleted)!!!

All these hours for nothing!!! The burial is at 20.08.95, 3 pm Krefeld, Germany. Thanks for your condolence . . .

Thomas Ivanschitz  
Duesseldorf, Germany

*My condolences for your poor Crazy Horse. It is one thing for a boom to break from crashing into a tree, or brick wall, or even while being caught with the feet, for the booms last moments of existence are spent in flight... But to die in the maker's hands, a twisted, wretched, grain-crunching death., must be the worst nightmare on every stick's mind. (The ancient aborigines, legend has it, would burn their best booms that died a broken death, in hopes of bringing good winds for the weekend's tournaments. You might want to try that.)* -ed

## Weighted booms

I got a Davro Trailblazer boom yesterday. According to the leaflet in the shop, it has a range of 45m. After some long walks, I finally got it to come partway back or at least fly over my head before crashing behind me.

Is this the right method with weighted booms? I used plenty of layover (30deg from horizontal) and throw 45 deg off the very slight wind. When I throw it with no layover it flies like a brick. Is a circular flight possible with one of these things, I'm getting an elliptical path at best.

Peter Giblin  
peter@paddy.demon.co.uk

## RV Throwers

I've been having a high ol' time throwing booms for ten years or so for my own pleasure and edification. And while I've never formed a group of throwers, something in a similar vein that gives me a lot of pleasure is getting a friend or co-worker hooked on the sport. Toward that end, I keep a few righties and lefties in my car at the ready, along with some boomsmiths' addresses. It's always a pleasure to introduce someone new to such a rewarding and beautiful hobby/sport. Keep throwing.

Terry  
Internet

## What More There Flies?

I got my Black Rose from Into The Wind. It's a kite store in Boulder (so if you're into kites you'll probably be interested in the catalog (which they'll send free). They sell about 20 booms normally and can special order. Their phone # is 1-800-541-0314.

I don't know how their prices compare to anyone else's but they charge \$17.95 for a Black Rose (plus a few bucks shipping).

## CLASSIFIEDS

### LONELY IN NEW MEXICO

Marooned (seemingly) boom player seeks passionate (hell, even half-interested!) companionship of either sex, any age, for mutual boomerang sessions. No kink, just serious boomerang fun! I know you're out there somewhere. I can't be the only boom player in New Mexico! Please call, write, e-mail, or knock on my door with boom in hand:

Steve Sanders - 1411 Rio Grande, NW -  
Albuquerque, NM 87104  
Phone: (505) 260-2818  
e-mail: falco@mail.unm.edu "\*\*\*\*\*"

### BOOMERANG NEWS

8 Issues: \$10 (USA); \$20 (Overseas)

Send Payment to **Ted Bailey:**

P. O. Box 6076  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

One thing I've noticed is that despite all the great press The Boomerang Man gets on the internet, his catalog doesn't contain everything that's available, even from boomsmiths whose booms he sells. Chet, for instance makes some models that aren't listed. If anyone has a more comprehensive catalog, please let me know. [note: even Colorado Boomerangs' new WWW catalog says that not all models are listed and call for more.] How many models don't we all know about, even from popular and well known boomsmiths?

Michael Jones  
<http://michaeljones.uoregon.edu>.

## Can Old Guys Compete?

I've never been to a tournament before, although I've been throwing booms for about 3 1/2 years now, if you count learning on an Aerobie. Just don't seem to be ANY boom players here in Albuquerque. Anyway... I was wondering, since the current top-ranked player is 15 years old, how do the older players feel about the age factor in competitions? Is it harder for older players to compete against younger ones in certain events which might require more physical endurance, flexibility, etc? Do any of you regular competitors think that there should be different age groups for competition? Reason I ask... I'm considering attending the tournament in Phoenix in October I'll be 40 in October, and I'm wondering how I'll stack up against younger players with similar experience (the knees in particular just aren't what they used to be).

It seems that as those who have been throwing booms for a good long while continue to age, they might want to consider a "seniors" class of competition. But hey, how should I know? Maybe you long-termer diehards plan to keep on kicking butt in tournaments until your last days! Just wondering...

Steve Sanders  
Albuquerque, NM



Dear Steve,

Due to the small turnout at most tournaments, and the need for a minimum number of 11 throwers in order to have a tournament rated, the USBA has set up a skill level division, in order to still rate all of the throwers, and yet to let them see how they stack up against other throwers of their skill level. You can enter Novice, Open, or Sport Class. The Novice class is for kids and uses different catches, so it is not rated. The Open class is for those new throwers and anyone who is not competing to make the U.S. team. The Sport class is for veteran competitors and those who wish to make the U.S. Team. Both of these classes are rated, but the Open class competitors are separated out and stacked up against each other for the tournament. -ed

## It's All A Question Of Accuracy

ed's note: New British Boomerang Society newsletter editor, Andy Watson responds to a request from the MHR editor to swap publications.

Gregg,

A reciprocal arrangement sounds like an excellent idea... We anticipate publishing 6 issues per annum with a similar format to that

of MHR - i.e. events, technical questions, reader profile, boom plans and reviews, etc.

Our first issue will feature an article on accuracy boomerangs. I would like to know more about the Aussie Secret displayed in Builder's Square in Issue 63 of MHR. Also, do you have information on the more popular types of Accuracy boomerangs used in the U.S.? Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Andy Watson  
Buckinghamshire,  
United Kingdom  
INTERNET:andyw@insignia.co.uk

Dear Andy,

On the accuracy issue, probably 90% of throwers in the U.S. are using a form of Eric Darnell's tri-fly. Eric is very helpful and would probably be glad to fill you in on some tips for working with this boom. His address is in the back of MHR under Turning Point on the Manufacturer's listing.

Chet's accuracy boom was originally stolen from aussies Geoff Kennedy and Rob Croll in 1988. Chet tried the heavy drag airfoil to make it better for wind fast catch and accuracy. "It worked pretty good," He says. "The addition of holes and flaps is the key," he adds.

He flaps the lift arm on the top and sometimes the trailing arm. He usually tapes lead tape under the lift arm tip only. He and I both

have scores of 48 points (which is the current U.S. record) with his accuracy booms, so those Aussies must have known what they were doing! -ed

## Must Be A Joke... Right?

...A few weeks ago, I had the misfortune of experiencing the theft of my backpack. Among several other valuable things that were in the bag was my cherished boomerang. It had been given to me, so I have no idea how much it's worth for insurance purposes. It was a mantis boomerang made by Gary Broadbent. I was wondering two things. First, do you know the value of a boom like this? Second, do you know how I can contact Gary? I think he lives in the Cleveland area.

Thanks for your help.

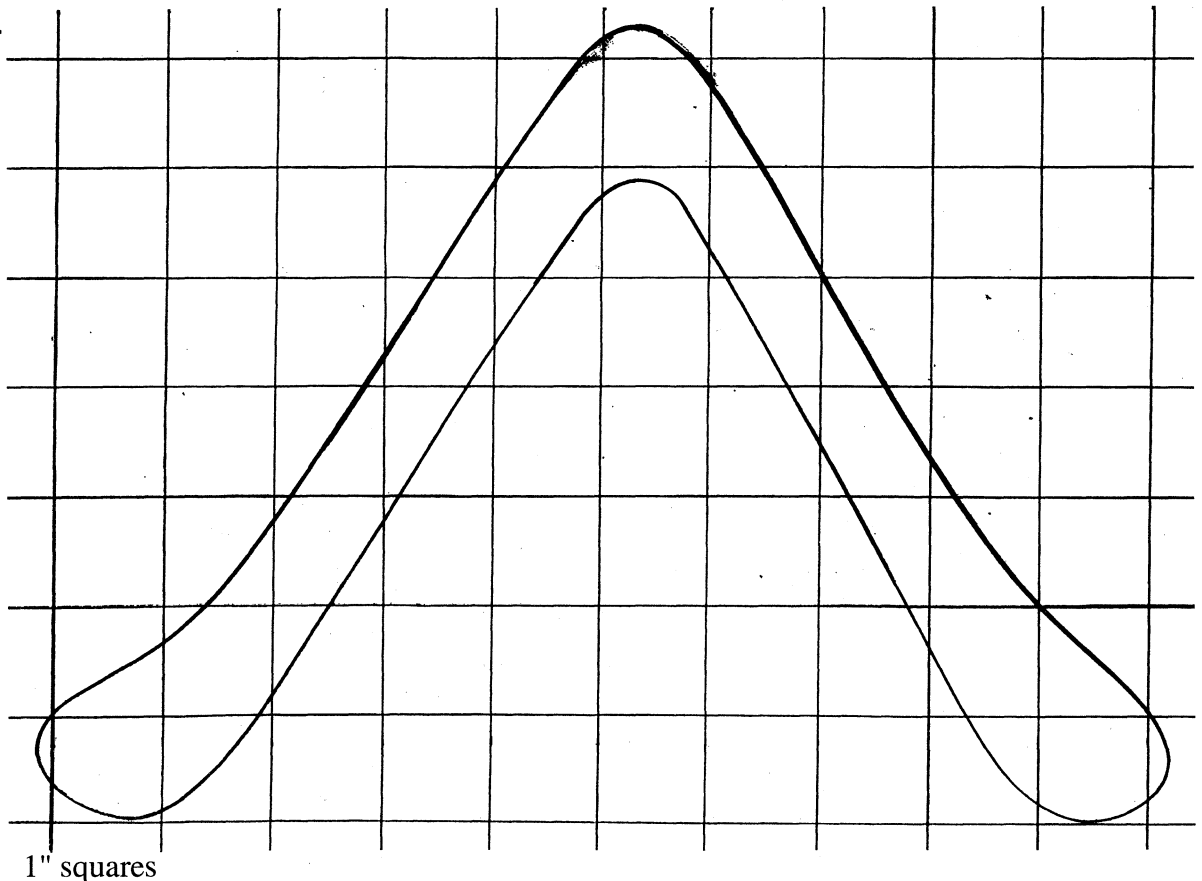
Jason Smucker  
Internet

Dear Jason,

If Gary made it, you're probably better off now that its gone! But I feel pretty sorry for the guy that stole it! I'm pretty sure Gary has to pay people to take his booms, and I suspect he probably paid you to write this note! In fact, I bet you're name isn't Jason at all... (Its you, isn't it Gary?)

But on the outside chance you're telling the truth, you can contact Gary at Broadbent Booms. See page 19 for the gory details. -ed

The Ola Wahlberg V-shaped Aussie Round 'rang used by Moleman in setting his world record. Made of 2mm phenolic, Ola adds a fairly blunt leading edge with a bit of undercut, and minimal trailing edge, in order to get fifty meters. Always start by sanding off LESS than you think. You can always remove more... but you can't put it back!



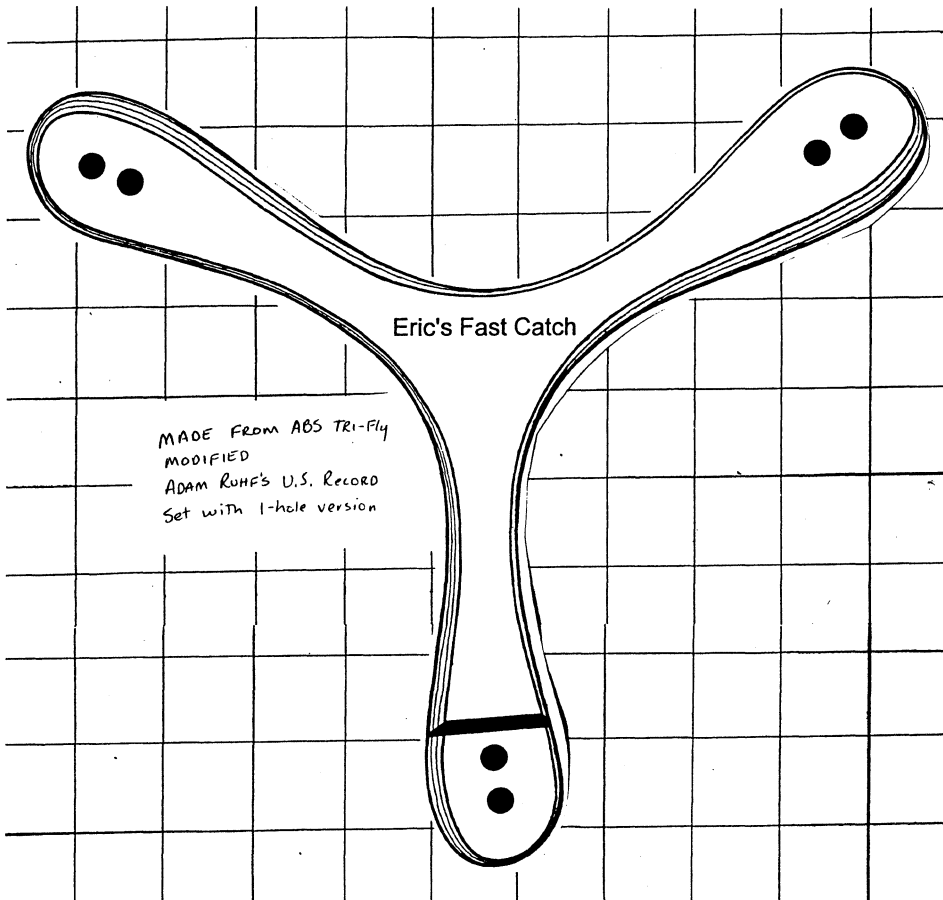
# BUILDER'S SQUARE

## Eric's Modified Tri-Fly Fast Catch Adam Ruhf's U.S. Record- holding boomerang

OK, kids. If you can't make this one, you're a habitual boom buying junkie. All you need is a Darnell ABS Tri-Fly (contact Eric at Turning Point Boomerangs - in manufacturer's listing) and a pocket knife. (No joke! The editor made a competition quality Fast Catch on the field an hour before the event a couple of years ago!)

A nice rubber drum sander will do the trick, as well. Use a rough grit to hack away the unwanted plastic and to add airfoils, then fine sand by hand.

You may need to add positive angle twist and bend wings downward to make it scream. Throw hard... like a 15 year old with a cannon strapped to his shoulder... and you might end up with the U.S. record, like Adam Ruhf did this summer. Keep it high, hard and vertical (i.e. no layover). It will go out high, then start coming down on its way around and finish up knocking your outstretched hands into your unsuspecting chest. If you make a really good one, don't worry... the blood wipes right off!



1" squares

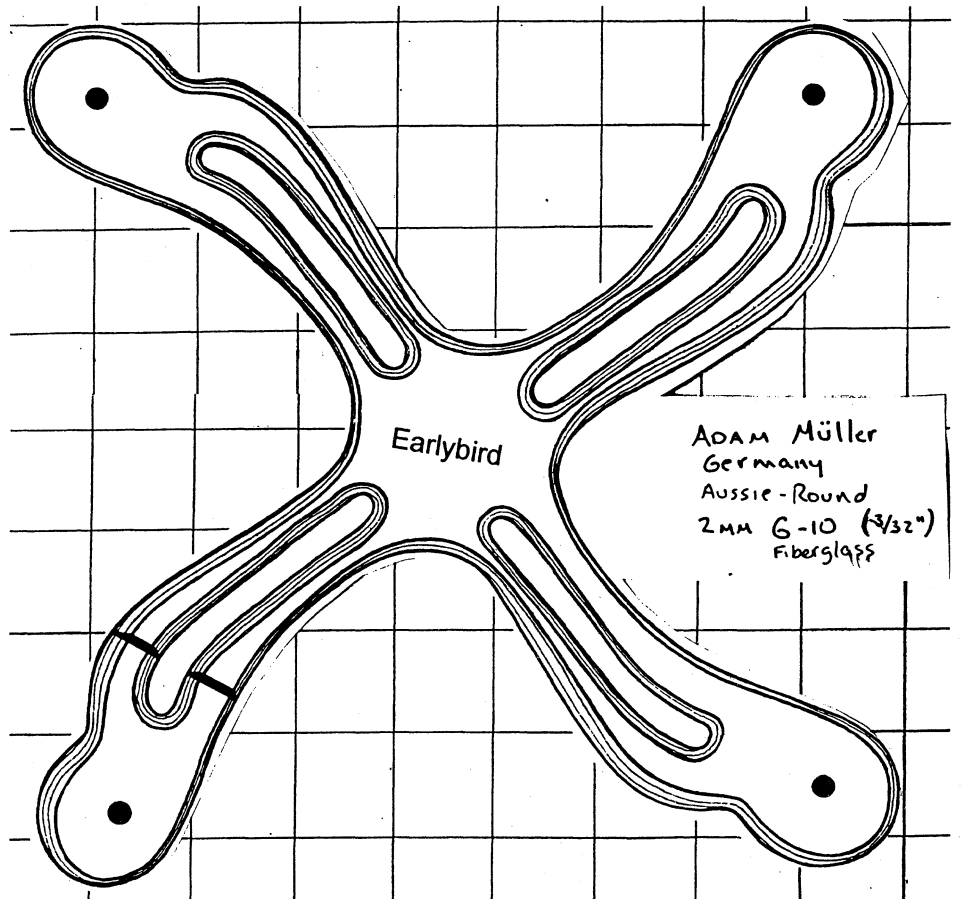
## German G-10 Fiber Epoxy 50 meter 'Rang

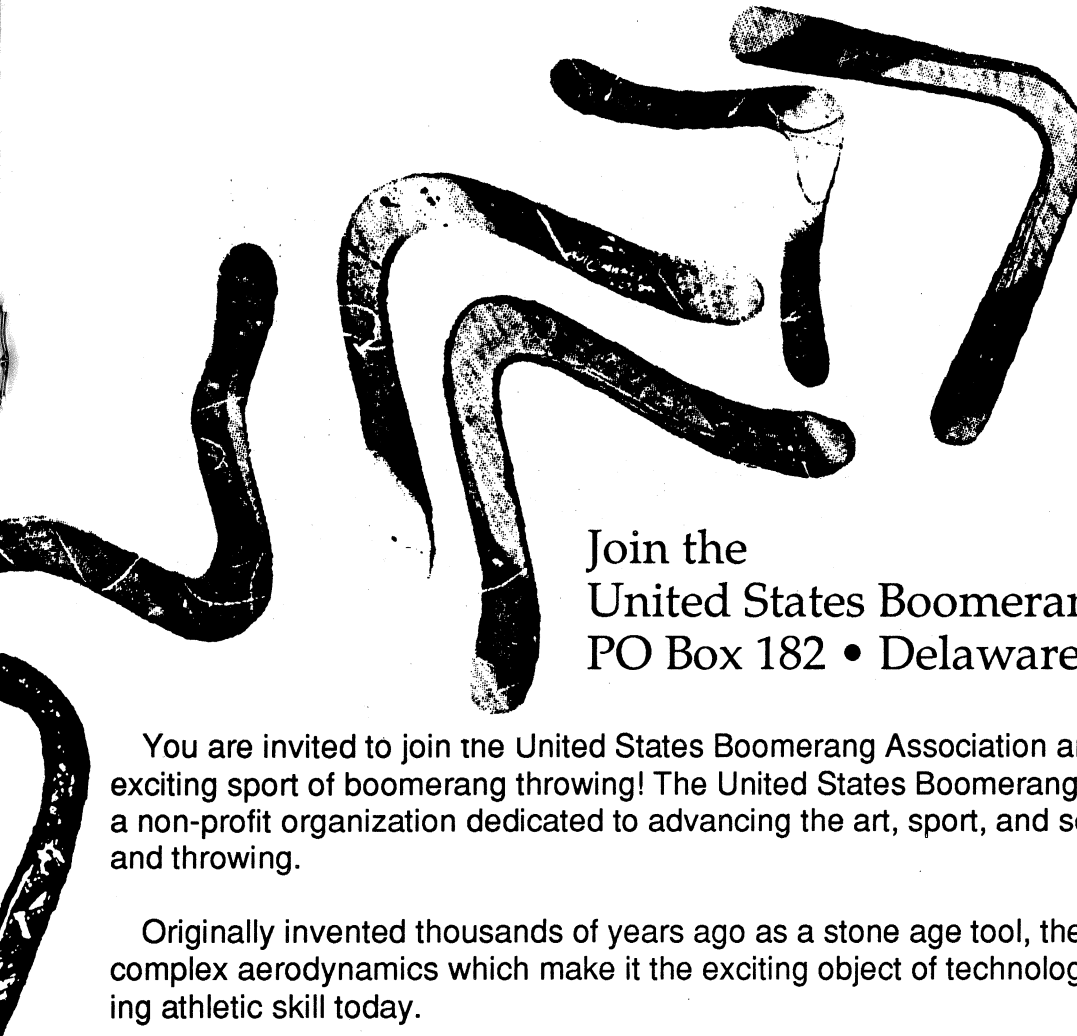
Adam Muller, of Germany, came up with this devilish Aussie Round 'rang for people who have a BIG arm and would rather knock that fly off their nose with a boomerang than scratch it off. This thing screams right back... even in wind. But it doesn't set up and it doesn't hover down. You throw a bull or else watch helplessly. And to throw a bull takes a hard, fairly vertical throw. If you've got the arm, you'll think its cool.

Muller uses 2 mm (3/32") G-10 fiberglass / epoxy. A three bladed version that Adam Ruhf and the editor made while visiting Gary Broadbent's over the summer works well also, and takes a little less arm. Contact this magazine for tips.

All patterns in this edition of MHR are reprinted with permission from Michael Siems' new book, DIE NEUE BUMERANG MAPPE.

**Following page:** The new USBA flyer, updated with current subscription price and information, is provided for members' use. Xerox the page, front and back, and keep extra copies in your boom bag for the curious.





Join the  
 United States Boomerang Association  
 PO Box 182 • Delaware, Ohio 43015 USA

You are invited to join the United States Boomerang Association and become a part of the exciting sport of boomerang throwing! The United States Boomerang Association, or "USBA", is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the art, sport, and science of boomerang design and throwing.

Originally invented thousands of years ago as a stone age tool, the returning boomerang has complex aerodynamics which make it the exciting object of technological advances and increasing athletic skill today.

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Make checks payable to "USBA". Annual dues are \$15 US and Canada, \$20 Overseas. Lifetime domestic memberships are \$225. Lifetime Overseas memberships are \$250. Check your newsletter label for expiration issue.

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In the quarterly "Many Happy Returns" you'll find:

- √ Boomerang plans to make at home
- √ Boomerang manufacturers lists
- √ Boomerang product reviews
- √ Wood and material suppliers that will ship to your home
- √ Nationwide Calendar of events
- √ Reports on outstanding feats and performances
- √ Player profiles on the top throwers in the world:  
*What they throw, how they train, tips from the pros*
- √ Ads featuring the latest in boomerang products, clothing, and Australian artifacts.

## Boomerang Sport: How to Play

There are 7 standard events in boomerang competition. The simplest is **Accuracy**. It's like darts except you throw from the bullseye! You get 5 throws and total the points. A perfect score is 50. Don't touch the boomerang upon return!

A fun event is **Trick Catching**. Can you make a one-hand catch? Behind the back, under the leg and with the feet are all contested catches in competition!

**Australian Round** tests distance, accuracy and catching ability. A 50 meter throw gets maximum distance points, while a bullseye still scores 10 points. You get 4 points for a catch.

**Fast Catch** involves making 5 throws and catches as quickly as possible with the same boomerang. The World record is 15 seconds for five throws!

**Maximum Time Aloft** times the longest of 4 throws to stay in the air. The World record in competition is just shy of 3 minutes for one throw!! In practice in Delaware, Ohio in August 1993 a single throw hovered over the field for 17 minutes before it descended and was caught by the thrower!

**Endurance** tests your fast catching ability over a 5 minute period. The final two events are further challenges requiring specialized boomerangs. **Doubling** involves throwing two boomerangs at the same time, catching both upon return.

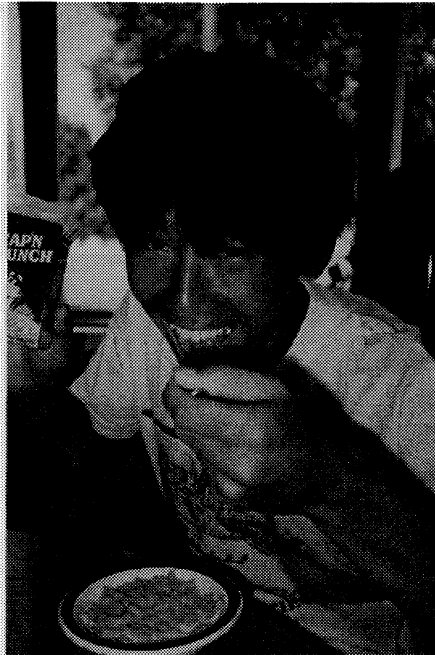
# COMPETITION CALENDAR

**Nov 12: Blue Mtn Championships:** Br. Brian Thomas; 131 Birrell St.; Waverly, NSW 2024; Australia. Ph (02) 369-0675  
**Nov 25: National Kylie Championships:** Birmingham, MI: Norm Kern hosts 2nd Hunting Stick event. Ph 810-645-9308  
**March 16: Southwest Shootout: USBA-rated event,** Mark Weary hosts tune up to World Cup. Ph 602-759-3973  
**Mar 24-31, 1996: World Cup Championships:** Earl Tutty; 17 Truscotts Rd.; Heathcote Valley; Christchurch 2; New Zealand. Ph (03) 3845 405

## Highlights From Minneapolis

MINNEAPOLIS, MN- **Stuart Jones** deserves all of the credit for hosting a smashing U.S. Open and National Championships in the Twin Cities over August 19-21.

Forty-seven competitors competed in the two-day U.S. Open on Saturday and Sunday, facing gusty, difficult winds on Saturday, and moderating winds on Sunday. On Monday, it was nearly indoors conditions, as the winds abated and bright blue skies ruled for the U.S. National Championships.



### Breakfast Of Champions?

Japanese Poster Boy, **Nobu**, came to Minneapolis, earning the distinction of "Furthest Distance to participate." Here he displays his "Breakfast of 27th place finishers."

It was Nobu's second trip to America this summer. He wowed U.S. throwers with his specially tuned Jonas MTA that flies higher than any MTA ever seen. When asked about Romblad MTA's in general, he said, "They're not so good until you tune them."

For Nobu's secret to success, check with Gary Broadbent, who tied Nobu down and fed him Captain Crunch until the hapless kid confessed. Getting the secret out of Gary won't be that easy, though!

### Chet Runs Away With 4th Open

**Chet Snouffer**, of Delaware, OH, started off the Open in 7th place after Fast Catch (26.07), but then won Trick Catch (31) and Doubling (29), took 5th in Accuracy (35),

second in Endurance (53), third in Aussie Round (61) and fourth in MTA (39.03), to blitz the overall field.

After winning the Open, Chet decided not to defend his nine National Championship titles on Monday, instead opting to run the show from the sidelines. This must be what he meant by "retirement" in 1994. His U.S. Open performance- his third rated event for the season- vaulted him into first place overall in the USBA computer ratings system for the season.

### Adam Ruhf Scorches Fast Catch

Just three weeks after smashing the U.S. fast catch record, 15-year-old **Adam Ruhf**, of Belchertown, PA, won the U.S. Open with a smoking 18.14 second round, then, in Monday's Nationals, he ripped his second sub-17 second round of the season, winning the event with 16.91 seconds. Adam repeated his second place overall performance in Monday's Nationals. When asked what he thought he might be capable of throwing in fast catch, the youth replied, "15.02." (The current world record is 15.03 seconds, held by Frenchman Greg Bisieau.)

### From Rags To Riches:

#### New National Champ, John Flynn

With Chet out of the National Championships, it was **John Flynn** who won his first Nationals, taking first in Aussie Round (75), second in Endurance (57), thirds in Doubling (28) and Fast Catch (19.75), and fourths in Trick Catch (31) and Accuracy (39). His lead was so large, by the final event, MTA, that he didn't even need to throw MTA to win. In fact, he might as well not have, finishing with an 11th place score of 34.6 seconds that STILL left him 8.5 points ahead of second place Adam Ruhf (who took second place in MTA!)

Most ironic of all, John's third day domination came on the heels of an inconsistent U.S. Open performance that left him in 17th place overall! Fortunately, he pre-qualified to throw in the Nationals based on his fourth place U.S. ranking as of tournament time.

### Open Division

**Norm Kern** reportedly won the Open Division of the U.S. Open, winning Endurance (40) and Accuracy (34), to finish 9 points ahead of second place, which was a tie between **Don Frazier** and **Steve Kostrab**, according to COMPETITION UPDATE. Further review, however, shows that Steve Kostrab actually finished AHEAD of Norm in the rated portion of the tournament. It is theoretically possible that the separate OPEN division ratings caused this discrepancy, but

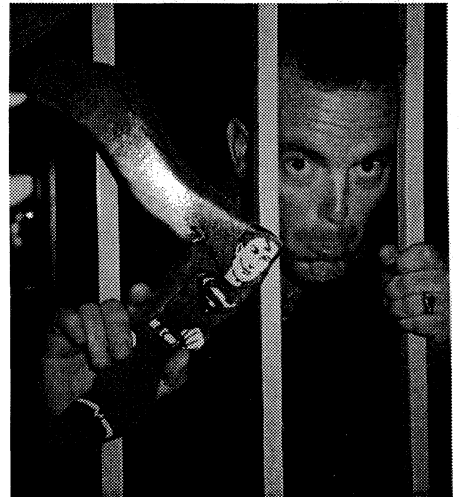
we'll have to wait for the final word. If you're holding your breath on this one, call 911.



### Craftsmanship, Design Winners

**Jeff Crandle**, of Toltec, Arizona won the craftsmanship category of the annual boomerang design contest. His "Mummy Cave" lap joint featured a knot in the lift arm that had been carved out to display a Mexican burial building... the Mummy Cave.

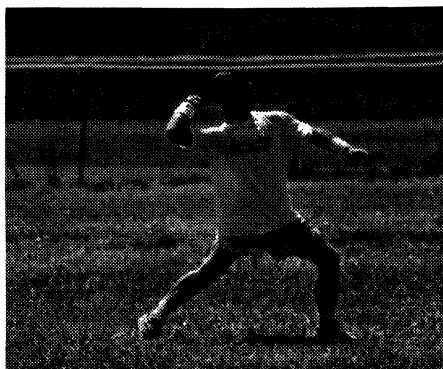
In the design category, **Michael Girvin** and **Dave Grover** combined efforts on the concept piece, "Boom Boom Boom," winning first place with a design that is best left to pictures to describe. Three strings of lettered beads join in the middle of the closed center, each strand spelling out the word, "BOOM."



### DISAPPOINTED

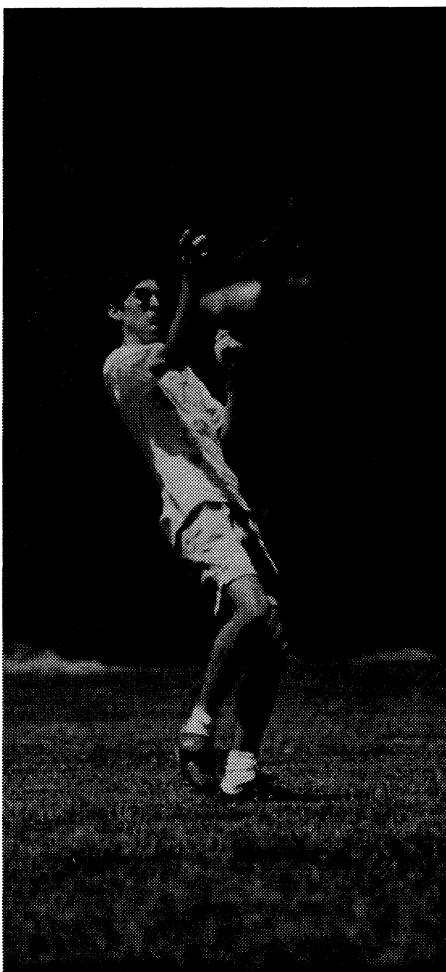
**Gary Broadbent** looking glum after finishing 5th at the Open and 3rd at Nationals. His Superman boom finished 2nd in design.

## NEWS FLASHES!



### Chet Snouffer Vaults To No. 1 in the ratings after third tournament... considers re-retiring!

He won two tournies, including his fourth U.S. Open (and there's only been four) and finished second in the other. Not bad after retirement and knee surgery!



Byron Seward endures the winds in the endurance event in Salem. He finished with 18 catches. - Photo B. Lewis-Gix

## Monster Calm in Connecticut!

### Moleman Caught Stealing Aussie Round World Record... promises not to do it again

Briefly: September 9, overcast, Moleman gets 95 in Aussie Round- New World Record (see story page 18); Larry Ruhf and John Flynn win Accuracy, tying U.S. record- 48; Rob Parkins wins Endurance and Doubling; Flynn wins overall... again....; Darnell goes 90+ meters to win the first U.S. Distance event since fire was invented... and you stayed home thinking it would be windy!

### Adam Ruhf Smokes U.S. Fast Catch Record in Delaware: 16.5 seconds... Promises to give up unhealthy habit

**"It was a big year in MTA"**

-Rev Jim. on reviewing the year's stats. After further speculation:

**"I think every single one of those big scores was thrown with a Jonas."**

### Maximum Time Aloft Times, so far this season:

1:19.75	Moleman	Emmaus
1:15.16	Mark Weary	Seattle
1:06.07	Chicago Bob	Avon
1:03.81	Gregg Snouffer	Nationals
56.13	Peter Ruhf	Emmaus
55.82	Gregg Snouffer	Avon
54.41	Dave Barrett	Avon
54.19	Steve Kavanaugh	U.S. Open
53.78	John Gorski	Avon
51.59	Chicago Bob	Delaware
50.81	Gary Broadbent	Nationals

### What's Next... Bookies?

Heads were spinning in Vegas over the Head To Head match- up in Delaware, Ohio on July 30.

The results of Saturday's USBA tourney were used to place seeds on the tournament bracket for each of the four events in Sunday's Head To Head shoot out. Event brackets were then xeroxed and passed out to competitors and spectators who wished to try their luck at picking the winners. A \$1 pool was held for each of the events, with the pool going to the entrant with the most correct picks for the event.

Soon to come: on-line betting!

## New Hampshire "Flynnie Sandwich On Ruhf Bread"

MERIDEN, NH- 15-year-old Adam Ruhf conquered the day, taking firsts in Doubling, Endurance and MTA, and third in Fast Catch. John Flynn scored 87 in Australian Round and carried a four point lead into the final event, Fast Catch, but could muster only ninth place in that event, to settle for second overall. Adam's father, the legendary Larry Ruhf proved he was still the king of trash wind fast catch, winning that event, with 24.89 seconds to wrap up third overall. First-time competitor Justin Brown, of Belcher-town, MA, took first in Trick Catch with 29 and finished 8th overall.

## Western Oregon Roundup

### Casey Larrance Lassoos the competition

SALEM, OREGON- The wind at Dean Kelly's 8th Roundup on July 16 turned out to be memorably miserable. As Byron Seward later described it, "It was windy. Very windy. Not just a breeze to keep you cool, but winds 15 mph gusting to 20, with few windows of nice weather and not a cloud in the sky, ever."

"We came very close to breaking the "having too much fun" regulation and consumed enough fluids for twice as many people as actually showed."

Casey Larrance skated away from the competition in his first tourney of the season, winning 4- firsts, 2-seconds, and a sixth place, to take the overall by twenty points over second place Doug DuFresne. It was only close for the first two events. Could this guy be in line for another U.S. Team spot? After just one tourney, he popped into the ratings at 22nd... with no median scores!

### The French Are Coming!

Its been "L'ete du Charles" in France, as Yannick Charles has terrorized European Boom fields, setting new world records in Endurance (76) and juggling (555), and winning just about every tournament he has entered.

His winning ways started in May, as he swept four of five early summer tournaments. His club team then won the French Team Championships in August.

In September, he set the juggling and endurance records, and now has his sights set upon New Zealand for the World Cup Competition next March. And from the looks of his countrymen, this could be the team to beat.



# Delaware Hosts "Future-Tourney"

DELAWARE, OH- This Central Ohio boomerang hotbed hosted what many throwers called "The future of the sport" at the annual Freethrowers boomerang tournament held the last weekend in July. Saturday featured the traditional USBA rated tournament, followed by a widely acclaimed head to head tournament on Sunday.

The ninety degree heat was an appropriate setting on Saturday, as 15 year-old Adam Ruhf scorched Rob Parkin's old American fast catch record by nearly a quarter-second with a 16.5 second round.

Rob, meanwhile won the overall competition, coming from behind in the final two events to outscore Delaware's own Chet Snouffer, who finished second. The second through fifth places were separated by a mere 3 placing points, with Chicago Bob, Gregg Snouffer and John Gorski rounding out the top five.

On Sunday, the second-ever Head to Head competition featured sixteen throwers, seeded in four events based on Saturday's tournament results, going head to head for prize money, with \$25 going to the winner of each event, and \$50 going to the overall winner.

In Australian Round, it was fourth seeded Gregg Snouffer who won the cash, outscoring eleventh seeded Mike Dickson in the final round 30 points to 26 on three 40-meter throws that are scored for catch and accuracy.

Trick Catch (a combination of trick catch and doubling throws) went to Gary Broadbent, the sixth seed, who overcame a broken foot-catch 'rang in his semi-final round to go on and beat twelfth seeded Dave Barrett in the final round.

Maximum Time Aloft was a run-away for fourth-seeded Nobu, from Japan, who pulled out a juiced up Jonas Romblad

which he had tuned for superior height. Unable to use it the previous day due to wind conditions, he devastated the competition in the best-of-three rounds, blanking every one of his opponents 2 to 0, starting with Tony Brazelton, then John Gorski, Adam Ruhf, and finally Chet.

The first place cash for Fast Catch was won by second seeded Chet Snouffer, who out-paced a speedier top seeded Adam Ruhf in the final match. But the youngster dropped his third catch and fell to the five catches-in-a-row veteran.

In the end, Chet came from behind in the final event, Fast Catch, to snatch the overall purse from younger brother, Gregg, with a total of 10 wins to Gregg's 9 for the tournament. Tied for third were Adam and Gary B with 7 wins apiece.

Throwers and spectators alike were pleased with the dramatic format.

# 1995 Competition Season Wrap-up

## Chet Regains Top Spot

In a season that saw one hundred forty-four competitors throw in 22 tournaments, a familiar face bobbed to the top of the heap.

Less than one year after announcing his retirement from the sport, **Chet Snouffer** regained competitive boomerang's top spot from 1994 champ, **Mark Weary**. Chet competed in just three tournaments, taking two firsts and a second place finish.

**John Flynn** earned second place, overall, skillfully working the ratings system, with performances that included a first, second, fourth, and fifth place finish, and even overcoming a 17th place finish in the U.S. Open (before coming back and winning the Nationals the next day.)

The third through twelfth place finishers were separated by little more than 10 points, lending suspense to the final tournament of the season, the October 14th Emmaus, Pennsylvania tournament. That event attracted 29 throwers from across the country, seeking ratings points in a mad jockey to make the notorious "Top 12," from which the two U.S. teams will be drawn for the New Zealand World Championships coming up in March. Unfortunately, the Pennsylvania Tournament was rained out after the first event, MTA, leaving some disappointed and some relieved competitors, who's places "on the bubble" would now be secure.

1	Chet Snouffer	103.00
2	John Flynn	92.50
3	Rob Parkins	83.33
4	Gary Broadbent	82.50
5	Mike Dickson	82.00
6	Adam Ruhf	80.50
7	Barnaby Ruhe	76.00
8	Mark Weary	75.00
9	Steve Kavanaugh	68.50
10	Chicago Bob	62.00
	Gregg Snouffer	62.00
12	Moleman	60.00
13	John Gorski	53.50
14	Wil Gix	48.83
15	Doug DuFresne	46.50
16	Keith Robson	33.50
17	Betsy Miale-Gix	33.00
18	Michael Girvin	31.00
19	Larry Ruhf	30.00
20	Tim Schallberger	29.00
21	Gary Friedman	23.00
	John Koehler	23.00
23	Scott Barrett	22.50
24	Eric Darnell	20.50
25	Peter Ruhf	20.00
26	Dave Barrett	17.50
27	Casey Larrance	17.00
28	Tony Brazelton	16.50
29	Byron Seward	14.00
30	Eddie Carrigg	9.00
31	Stephane Marguerite	8.50
32	Dennis Joyce	7.50
33	Eric Promislow	7.00
34	Steve Collins	6.00
35	Aron McGuire	5.00
36	Don Monroe	4.00
37	Harald Steck	3.50
	Nobu	3.50
39	Paul Sprague	3.00
40	Chris Ozolins	2.00
	Norm Kern	2.00
42	Bud Pell	1.00
	Kim Galeazzi	1.00
44	David Silver	.33

## So you want to be the Best?

Here's what you'd have had to do to make the grade:

### 1995 Best Scores

#### Trick Catch:

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1) 111 points | Mike Dickson   |
| 2) 87 points  | Gary Broadbent |
| 3) 68 points  | Chicago Bob    |

#### Accuracy:

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| 1) 48 points | John Flynn |
| 48 points    | Larry Ruhf |
| 48 points    | Will Gix   |

#### Fast Catch:

- |                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1) 16.50 seconds | Adam Ruhf     |
| 2) 18.06 seconds | Moleman       |
| 3) 18.20 seconds | Chet Snouffer |

#### Aussie Round:

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1) 95 points | Moleman        |
| 2) 88 points | Gary Broadbent |
| 3) 87 points | John Flynn     |

#### Maximum Time Aloft:

- |            |             |
|------------|-------------|
| 1) 1:19.75 | Moleman     |
| 2) 1:15.56 | Mark Weary  |
| 3) 1:06.07 | Chicago Bob |

#### Doubling:

- |              |              |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1) 42 Points | Adam Ruhf    |
| 2) 36 Points | John Flynn   |
| 36 Points    | Mike Dickson |

#### Endurance:

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1) 71 catches | Rob Parkins    |
| 2) 70 catches | Gary Broadbent |
| 3) 67 catches | Mark Weary     |



Ratings, continued from pg 16

### 1995 Best Median Scores

#### Trick Catch

- 1) 31 points Barnaby Ruhe, Chet Snouffer, Gary Broadbent, and Mike Dickson

#### Accuracy

- 1) 37 points Gregg Snouffer, Mike Dickson
- 3) 36 points Barnaby Ruhe

#### Fast Catch

- 1) 18.92 seconds Chet Snouffer
- 2) 20.04 seconds Betsy Miale-Gix
- 3) 20.41 seconds Adam Ruhf

#### Aussie Round

- 1) 80.5 points John Flynn
- 2) 67 points Gary Friedman
- 3) 66 points Chet Snouffer

#### Maximum Time Aloft

- 1) 36.00 seconds Doug DuFresne
- 2) 35.79 seconds Dave Barrett
- 3) 35.16 seconds Michael Gel

#### Doubling

- 1) 28.0 points Byron Seward
- 2) 25.0 points Doug DuFresne
- 3) 24.5 points Adam Ruhf

#### Endurance

- 1) 56.0 catches John Flynn
- 2) 54.5 catches Betsy Miale-Gix
- 3) 54.0 catches Barnaby Ruhe

### Top Overall In Each Event

- Trick Catch: Gary Broadbent
- Accuracy: Mike Dickson
- Fast Catch: Chet Snouffer
- Aussie Round: John Flynn
- Maximum Time Aloft: Chicago Bob
- Doubling: Adam Ruhf
- Endurance: Rob Parkins

For complete summary of 1995 ratings, send SASE to Chicago Bob, P.O. Box 242, Waterloo IL 62298

### Overheard On The Field

*"I'm wallowing in the sh-- I've thrown."*

*-Steve Collins, when asked at US Open why he was looking so glum.*



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## FASCINATING FACTS

"Because life isn't all competition!"

### You Sure That's 50?

**Barnaby Ruhe**, at his October 14 tournament, was questioned about the proximity of a light pole located near the 50 meter circle, which, according to USBA standards, must have 10 meters clear around the outside. Barnaby responded by taking a 50 meter 'rang, walking to the 10 meter line around the bullseye and throwing it. **The boom smashed directly into the light pole... 50 meters away!**

### Hey Bunny, How Do You Throw This Thing?

At September's Connecticut tournament, **Barnaby Ruhe** convinced **Moleman** to try his new **Ola Walberg "V,"** even though he was unfamiliar with it and had trouble getting fifty meters range with it.

For his first throw, he caught what appeared to head judge Rob Parkins to be an 18 point catch in the 8 point circle. Mole corrected him, saying his toe had actually touched the 7 point line... the catch was worth only 17 points.

With his next throw, he backed up, thinking the boom would fly over his

head. Instead, it hit the brakes and dropped in front of him, causing a scramble to get to it in front of the bullseye... for 8 points accuracy... an 18 point catch.

He looked over at **Barnaby** for guidance on how to judge the flight for the catch. Barnaby just winked at him.

His third throw he jumped into the bullseye for a 20 point catch. For his fourth he caught the boom with his toes in the bullseye, his body leaning outward in a slow fall after the catch... another 20.

With his last throw, he found himself straddling the 9 point line, with one foot in the 10 and one in the 8 point circle. As the boom approached, just before catching, he lifted his right foot off the ground, leaving his bullseye foot as the only point of contact when the catch was made... another 20... and a new World Record score of 95 points.

Under Barnaby Ruhe's tutelage, Mole first learned how to throw his Ola boomerang correctly, in order to get fifty meters, **during the event warm-up period!**

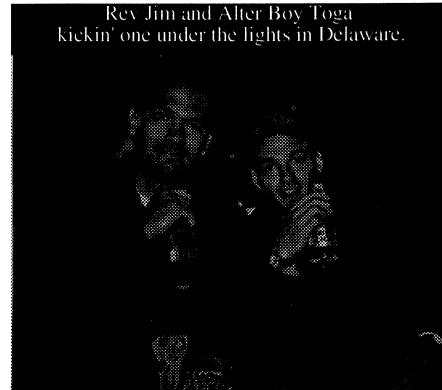
### Speaking Of Moleman...

At July's Emmaus, PA tournament, Moleman tossed an MTA up to watch it immediately stabilize and drift FORWARD, not back, with the prevailing wind, as Mole thought it would.

As the boom rose and drifted toward a line of trees in front of the circle, everyone was convinced it would surely be munched by the trees. Instead, it halted its approach a few meters from the upper

branches, hung there for several seconds, and then began a slow, steady retreat back toward the circle and the waiting arms of Moleman. It settled down just 20 meters downwind of where he threw it...**one minute and nineteen seconds later... the best score of the season, and just six seconds short of the world record!**

Rev Jim and Alter Boy Toga  
kickin' one under the lights in Delaware.



**"They never did  
work for me, the  
@ # & % things!"**

-A 70 year-old woman at a boomerang demo... hosted by Tom Fitzgerald and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources... just before throwing and catching her first boomerang! (She later bought two for her grandkids!)

Thanks Dan Kaminski!

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\* First edition and signed by the author.

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